

Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to adopt the committee amendments.

SENATOR HALL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Schimek, to open on the bill.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body, this is a bill that I brought to the Government Committee upon the request of a woman who lives here in Lincoln who had suffered a grievous assault when living in Omaha a number of years ago and while she was still living in Omaha, she was in a mall one day and approached a League of Women Voters booth about registering to vote and her concern was that she did not want to register to vote unless her voter information could be kept confidential because the person who perpetrated the crime on her had never been caught, and she was still scared and concerned. She had been stalked before the crime ever happened. Her apartment had been broken into three times and she was beaten very badly and suffered traumatic brain injury and a number of other injuries. So we took a look at a similar kind of law in California and they have two types of confidential voter registration for citizens, or one is for citizens and the other is for criminal justice personnel. In California, as it would be here, if this were to pass, there would be no effort to publicize court ordered confidential voter registration, but when voters would ask, they would be told about it. And in California, Senator Robinson was right, very few voters have gone to the time and trouble to have their names confidentially, voter records confidential. California has over 15 million registered voters, only 288 have obtained court orders for confidential registration. So this really is a bill that would protect a crime victim or any other citizen who might have been, might have reason to be afraid of personal injury to have confidentiality. They would still have to give a post office box to which mailings could be sent to them by the county clerk or election commissioner, but their address would not be given out to campaigns or anybody else. Their voter file would be confidential and one of the good things about the committee amendment is that file would be kept separate from the all the other voter files so that it wouldn't inadvertently get mixed in. So with that I would simply encourage advancement.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Is there any